

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 11-33 and 35-37; and

add new claims 38-41 as follows.

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

maintaining, in a first network element of a communication system, registration information from a plurality of users;

maintaining, in a second network element of the communication system, information associated with said plurality of users, wherein the second network element is separate from the first network element and wherein said second network element information is dependent on the registration information;

sending a subscribe message for an event from the second network element to the first network element, wherein the event is a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the first network element;

receiving at the first network element a register message from at least one user, said message changing the registration information of said at least one user; and

sending a notification from the first network element to the second network element in response to the register message, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

defining an event package associated with said event.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:
configuring the first network element to be a registrar.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the sending
the subscribe message for the change in registration information relates to presence
information.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claim in claim 4, further comprising:
configuring the second network element to be a presence server.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
operating the system in accordance with a session initiation protocol.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the sending
the subscribe message comprises sending a session initiation protocol SUBSCRIBE
message, and the sending the notification comprises sending a session initiation protocol
NOTIFY message.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
sending, by a third network element, a subscribe message to the second network
element for information associated with said at least one user.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:
sending, by the second network element, a notification to the third network
element in response to the notification received at the second network element, wherein
said sent notification by the second network element includes information associated with
said at least one user.

10. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:
configuring the third network element to be an application server.

11. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:
a first network element configured to maintain registration information from a
plurality of users; and
a second network element configured to maintain information associated with said
plurality of users, wherein the second network element is separate from the first network
element and wherein said second network element information is dependent on the
registration information,

wherein said second network element is configured to send a subscribe message
for an event to the first network element,

wherein said first network element is configured to receive a register message
from at least one user, said register message configured to change the registration
information of said at least one user,

wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the first network element,

wherein said first network element is configured to send a notification from the first network element to the second network element in response to the register message, and

wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~communication~~ system as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

an event package associated with said event.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~communication~~ system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first network element is a registrar.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~communication~~ system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said register message configured to change the registration information relates to presence information.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~communication~~ system as claimed in claim 14, wherein the second network element is a presence server.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~communication~~ system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the system is configured to operate in accordance with a session initiation protocol.

17. (Currently Amended) A ~~network element~~An apparatus, comprising:

storage circuitry configured to maintain registration information from a plurality of users;

receiving circuitry configured to receive a subscribe message for an event from a ~~second~~-network element, wherein the ~~second~~ network element is separate from the ~~network element apparatus~~ and wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the ~~network element apparatus~~;

receiving circuitry configured to receive a register message from at least one user, said register message configured to change the registration information of said at least one user; and

transmitting circuitry configured to send a notification to the ~~second~~ network element in response to the register message, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~network element~~An apparatus, comprising:

storage circuitry configured to maintain information associated with a plurality of users, wherein said information is dependent on registration information maintained at a

~~second~~-network element, wherein the ~~second~~ network element is separate from the network element apparatus;

transmitting circuitry configured to send a subscribe message for an event to the ~~second~~-network element, wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the ~~second~~ network element; and

receiving circuitry configured to receive a notification from the ~~second~~ network element, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

19. (Currently Amended) The network element apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein an event package is defined, the event package being associated with said event.

20. (Currently Amended) The network element apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein the network element apparatus is a registrar.

21. (Currently Amended) The network element apparatus as claimed in claim 20, wherein the change in registration information relates to presence information.

22. (Currently Amended) The network element apparatus as claimed in claim 21, wherein the ~~second~~ network element is a presence server.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ as claimed in claim 17, wherein the system operates in accordance with a session initiation protocol.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ as claimed in claim 23, wherein the subscribe message comprises a session initiation protocol SUBSCRIBE message, and the notification comprises a session initiation protocol NOTIFY message.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ as claimed in claim 18, where an event package is defined, and the event package being associated with said event.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ as claimed in claim 25, wherein the ~~second~~ network element is a registrar.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ as claimed in claim 26, wherein the change in registration information relates to presence information.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ as claimed in claim 27, wherein the ~~network element apparatus~~ is a presence server.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element apparatus~~ as claimed in claim 18, wherein the system operates in accordance with a session initiation protocol.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 29, wherein the subscribe message comprises a session initiation protocol SUBSCRIBE message, and the notification comprises a session initiation protocol NOTIFY message.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein a ~~third second~~ network element sends a subscribe message to the ~~network element~~ apparatus for information associated with said at least one user.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 31, wherein the ~~network element~~ apparatus sends a notification to the ~~third second~~ network element in response to the notification received at the ~~network element~~ apparatus, wherein said sent notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~network element~~ apparatus as claimed in claim 31, wherein the ~~third second~~ network element is an application server.

34. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:
maintaining, in a registrar server network element of a communication system, registration information from a plurality of users;
maintaining, in a presence server network element of the communication system separate from the registrar server network element, information associated with said

plurality of users, wherein said presence server network element information is dependent on the registration information;

 sending a subscribe message for an event from the presence server network element to the registrar server network element, wherein the event is a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the registrar server network element;

 receiving at the registrar server network element a register message from at least one user, said message changing the registration information of said at least one user; and

 sending a notification from the registrar server network element to the presence server network element in response to the register message, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

35. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:

 a registrar server network element configured to maintain registration information from a plurality of users; and

 a presence server network element configured to maintain information associated with said plurality of users, wherein the presence server network element is separate from the registrar service network element and wherein said presence server network element information is dependent on the registration information,

 wherein said presence server network element is configured to send a subscribe message for an event to the registrar server network element,

wherein said registrar server network element is configured to receive a register message from at least one user, said register message configured to change the registration information of said at least one user,

wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the registrar server network element,

wherein said registrar server network element is configured to send a notification from the registrar server network element to the presence server network element in response to the register message, and

wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A registrar server network element~~An apparatus, comprising:

storage circuitry configured to maintain registration information from a plurality of users;

receiving circuitry configured to receive a subscribe message for an event from a presence server network element, wherein the presence server network element is separate from the ~~registrar server network element~~ apparatus and wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the ~~registrar server network element~~ apparatus;

receiving circuitry configured to receive a register message from at least one user, said register message configured to change the registration information of said at least one user; and

transmitting circuitry configured to send a notification to the presence server network element in response to the register message, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~A presence server network element~~An apparatus, comprising:

storage circuitry configured to maintain information associated with a plurality of users, wherein said information is dependent on registration information maintained at a registrar server network element, wherein the registrar server network element is separate from the ~~presence server network element~~apparatus;

transmitting circuitry configured to send a subscribe message for an event to the registrar server network element, wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the registrar server network element; and

receiving circuitry configured to receive a notification from the registrar server network element, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

38. (New) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to perform:

maintaining, in a first network element of a communication system, registration information from a plurality of users;

maintaining, in a second network element of the communication system, information associated with said plurality of users, wherein the second network element is separate from the first network element and wherein said second network element information is dependent on the registration information;

sending a subscribe message for an event from the second network element to the first network element, wherein the event is a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the first network element;

receiving at the first network element a register message from at least one user, said message changing the registration information of said at least one user; and

sending a notification from the first network element to the second network element in response to the register message, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

39. (New) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium, said computer program configured to control a processor to perform:

maintaining, in a registrar server network element of a communication system, registration information from a plurality of users;

maintaining, in a presence server network element of the communication system separate from the registrar server network element, information associated with said plurality of users, wherein said presence server network element information is dependent on the registration information;

sending a subscribe message for an event from the presence server network element to the registrar server network element, wherein the event is a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the registrar server network element;

receiving at the registrar server network element a register message from at least one user, said message changing the registration information of said at least one user; and

sending a notification from the registrar server network element to the presence server network element in response to the register message, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

40. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

storing means for storing registration information from a plurality of users;

first receiving means for receiving a subscribe message for an event from a network element, wherein the network element is separate from the apparatus and wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the apparatus;

second receiving means for receiving a register message from at least one user, said register message configured to change the registration information of said at least one user; and

transmitting means for transmitting a notification to the network element in response to the register message, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.

41. (New) An apparatus, comprising:

storing means for storing information associated with a plurality of users, wherein said information is dependent on registration information maintained at a network element, wherein the network element is separate from the apparatus;

transmitting means for transmitting a subscribe message for an event to the network element, wherein the event is associated with a change in the registration information of at least one of the plurality of users at the network element; and

receiving means for receiving a notification from the network element, wherein the notification includes information associated with said at least one user.